



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/663,755

09/17/2003

Sterling Smith

MSS0007-US

3830

7590

11/12/2004

Michael D. Bednarek  
Shaw Pittman LLP  
1650 Tysons Boulevard  
McLean, VA 22102

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HIEP

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2816

DATE MAILED: 11/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/663,755	Applicant(s) SMITH, STERLING	
	Examiner Hiep Nguyen	Art Unit 2816	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 September 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Amendment*

The amendment filed on 09-07-04 has been received and entered in the case. New ground of rejections necessitated by the amendment is set forth below.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

The recitations “an input node for receiving an analog image signal with a display mode” and “wherein said filter provides a variable bandwidth in response to said display mode” in claims 1 and 7 are not described in the specification. Claims 2-6 and 8-12 are indefinite because of the technical deficiencies of claims 1 and 7.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Correction and or clarification is required.

Regarding claims 1 and 7, the recitation “wherein said filter provides a variable bandwidth in response to said display mode” is indefinite because it is not clear why the filter

Art Unit: 2816

only provides a variable bandwidth during display mode. Figure 3 of the present application shows that the filter (24) filters any signal that passes through it in any mode.

Claims 2-6 and 8-12 are indefinite because of the technical deficiencies of claims 1 and 7.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Peterson et al. (US pat. 5,926,217).

Regarding claims 1, 2, figures 3 and 4 of Peterson shows an interface circuitry of a display chip, said interface circuitry comprising:

an input node (Vdet) for receiving an analog image signal containing video information;

a filter (117) for processing said analog image signal and providing a processed image signal at an internal node; and

a clamping circuit (131) connected between said internal node and a reference level;

wherein said filter provides a variable bandwidth “in response to said display mode” wherein said clamping circuit is used to clamp said processed image signal by said reference level during a clamping interval. Note that filter (117) can be a variable adjustable) low pass filter (col. 1, lines 58-61). The signal from the output of the circuit is sent to the video system. It is inherent that the circuit of Peterson works in display mode.

Regarding claims 3 and 4, figure 4 of Peterson shows that the clamping circuit comprises a transistor. The gate of the clamping transistor is connected to a clamping signal (135 or VCLMP).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peterson et al. (US pat. 5,926,217) in view of Kwon et al. (US Pat. 6,724,245).

Regarding claims 5 and 6, figures 3 and 4 of Peterson include all the limitations of claims 5 and 6 except for the limitation that the clamping circuit comprises a variable resistor and a transistor. Figure 1 of Kwon shows a clamping circuit comprising a variable resistor (N1) and a transistor (N2) for adjusting the voltage at the internal node (col. 5, lines 12-33). Therefore, it would have been obvious to those skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the clamping circuit (131) of Peterson with the circuit taught by Kwon for adjusting the voltage at the internal node. The transistor is transistor (N2) and the clamping signal is (clamp\_en). It is inherent that the circuit of Peterson works in display mode.

Claims 7-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Obie et al. (US Pat. 5,038,096) in view of Olmstead et al. (US Pat. 5,814,803), Kwon et al. (US Pat. 6,724,245) and Kanagawa et al. (US Pat. 6,366,866).

Regarding claims 7 and 8, figure 1 of Obie shows an interface circuitry of a display chip comprising;

an analog image signal the input of the video filter (112);

a video filter (112) for processing said analog image signal and providing a processed image signal at internal node;

an ADC unit (118) for converting said processed image signal into a digital image signal. Figure 1 of Obie does not show a clamping circuit connecting between said internal node and a reference level and the filter is adjustable. Figure 10A of Olmstead show an interface circuitry of a display chip comprising a clamping circuit (S1) connecting

Art Unit: 2816

between said internal node and a non zero reference level for establishing a precise reference for each pixel before video bump occurs (col. 12, lines 47-57). Figure 3 of Kanagawa shows an adjustable low-pass filter (211) for eliminating high frequency noise. Therefore, it would have been obvious to those skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the clamping circuit taught by Olmstead into the circuit of Obie for establishing a precise reference for each pixel before video bump occurs and to replace the fixed video filter (112) with the adjustable filter (211) taught by Kanagawa for eliminating high frequency noise. The variable resistor is element (2111).

Regarding claims 9 and 10, the combination of Obie, Olmstaed and Kanagawa includes all the limitations of claims 9 and 10 except for the limitation that the filter comprises a variable resistor and a capacitor. Figure 1 of Kwon shows a clamping circuit comprising a variable resistor (N1) and a transistor (N2) controlled by signal (clamp\_en) for adjusting the voltage at the internal node (col. 5, lines 12-33). Therefore, it would have been obvious to those skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the clamping circuit (S1) of Olmstead with the clamping circuit taught by Kwon for adjusting the voltage at the internal node. The transistor is transistor (N2) and the clamping signal is (clamp\_en).

Regarding claims 11 and 12, the variable resistor is element (N1) of Kwon and the transistor is (N2) receiving a control signal (clamp\_en).

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

Art Unit: 2816

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hiep Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1752. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on (571) 272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hiep Nguyen

11-08-04



TUAN T. LAM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER